



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
1900 KANAWHA BOULEVARD, EAST  
CHARLESTON, WV 25305  
(304) 558-2000

EARL RAY TOMBLIN  
GOVERNOR

February 19, 2014

Ms. Elizabeth A. Zimmerman  
Deputy Associate Administrator  
Office of Response and Recovery  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
500 C Street, SE  
Washington, D. C. 20472

Through: Ms. MaryAnn Tierney  
Regional Administrator  
FEMA Region III  
One Independence Mall, Sixth Floor  
615 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA, 19106-0444

Dear Ms. Zimmerman:

Beginning January 9, 2014, the water supply of approximately 300,000 citizens of West Virginia was contaminated by a spill of 4 methycyclohexanemethanol. This resulted in my request for an Emergency Declaration to meet the immediate needs of those customers who were told to not use their tap water for drinking, food preparation, bathing or cleaning. The only authorized uses were firefighting and flushing of bathroom facilities. President Barack Obama granted my request, and FEMA's immediate response with water, food and technical assistance helped our citizens weather the initial phase of this disaster with as little disruption as possible.

However, this event, unlike the natural disasters with which we are all too familiar, has created unprecedented issues with which the citizens and businesses of our state in addition to government at all levels have had to deal with on an ongoing basis from January 9 until today. The testing of water supplies and distribution of water continue due to the concerns for the public safety we all share. As a result we have been unable to follow the traditional pattern of determining the need for and preparing a formal request for a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration for this event.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Ms. Elizabeth A. Zimmerman

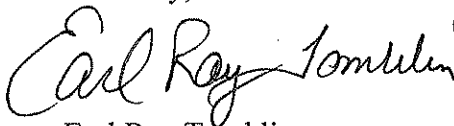
February 19, 2014

Page Two

Therefore, in accordance with Title 44, Code of Federal Regulations, §206.36(a), and due to the complexity of the situation and extraordinary response demands made on local, state and federal agencies, I request an extension of 30 days, until March 21, 2014, for the time period in which I may request a Major Disaster Declaration for the damages that occurred beginning January 9, 2014. This extension will permit us to develop realistic estimates of the costs and impact of this ongoing event which can then be used to determine the appropriateness of requesting a Major Disaster Declaration and detailing the forms of assistance we believe should be included following granting of that request.

Any questions regarding this appeal or requests for additional documentation should be directed to Mr. James J. Gianato whom I have appointed as State Coordinating Officer for this disaster recovery operation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Earl Ray Tomblin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Earl" being the most prominent.

Earl Ray Tomblin  
Governor

enclosures